# TERRA

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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

# THE COMMUNITY'S CHOICE
## Selections from the African Collections

In the summer of 1997, the Natural History Museum invited Los Angeles community leaders to join with museum staff in creating an exhibit drawn from the institution's own African holdings. The ten people who responded became the Committee of Selectors, whose sensibilities guided the project.

Working as a group behind the scenes in the museum's collections management area, the selectors created an exhibit of 150 pieces, chosen from among the 5,000 objects in the African holdings. In some cases, committee members also wrote about their choices for museum visitors.

The resulting exhibit, highlights from which are shown here, is greatly enriched by the selectors' shared personal, professional, and community perspectives.

Margaret Ann Hardin
Curator of Anthropology

**Water container, East Africa. Gift of Tracey and Cita S. Woodward, 1978. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (F.A.2139.78-18).**

*Water is Africa's most precious commodity, and seventy-five percent of a woman's day is spent in searching for it, drawing it from wells, and transporting it—on her head or back—to the family for its use and consumption.* Doris Topsy-Elvord

**Cover: Gelede Society mask, Yoruba Peoples, Nigeria. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Stein, 1963. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (A.8043.63-1).**

**Comb, Akan Peoples, Ghana. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sibert, 1984. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (F.A.2499.84-13).**

*To the African the comb was more than an instrument for grooming. It was ornately carved to indicate his or her tribal and cultural affiliation, personal status, history, and wealth. The comb was often presented to a loved one as a gift or expression of love. This important cultural symbol did not accompany the African on the slave ships to the Americas and for a period of 400 years, from the fourteenth century to the eighteenth century, was a missing part of African life in the Americas.* DR. ALEX J. NORMAN

**BELOW: Divination bowl, Yoruba Peoples, Nigeria. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Stein, 1963. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (A.8043.63-9).**

**BOTTOM LEFT: Gold-weights, cast brass, Akan Peoples, Ghana. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Kuhn, 1980. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (F.A.462.80-110, 112, 114, 115, and 122).**

**BOTTOM RIGHT: Beaded leather box, Yoruba Peoples, Nigeria. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Stein, 1964. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (A.8043.64-28).**

**The Selectors Committee.** ***Left to right, seated:*** **Adrienne Foster, Dr. Maulana Karenga, and Marilyn F. Solomon.** ***Standing:*** **Catherine Dickinson, Dr. Alex J. Norman, Robert Barrett, Doris Topsy-Elvord, and Rick Moss, with Natalia M. Varanko, Special Exhibits Coordinator, and Dr. Margaret Ann Hardin, Curator of Anthropology, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.** ***Not shown:*** **Committee members Olivia C. Fields and Phyllis Moore Venable, and Chris Coleman, Collections Manager, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.**

**Opposite: Mask, Senufo Peoples, Côte d'Ivoire. The Irving and Jean Stone Collection, 1976. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (F.A.1741.76-12).**

### The Committee of Selectors

**Robert Barrett** is the Associate Vice-President of Cultural Tourism at the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau. For fourteen years he was the Executive Director of the Fresno Art Museum. His interest in African art began in art school and increased during Peace Corps service in Liberia, West Africa.

**Catherine Dickinson** is a Communications Officer for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, in charge of community outreach. MTA's public outreach efforts through promotions, written materials, and advertising are a part of her job function. For the exhibit *AFRICA: One Continent, Many Worlds,* she has written a brochure and advertisements for the Metro Bus and Rail.

**Olivia C. Fields** has been the Director of Marketing for the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce since 1989. Subsequent to that she was a Financial Consultant for the San Francisco Office of Merrill Lynch. She serves on the African Marketplace Board of Directors and the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau Cultural Arts and Tourism Committee. Ms. Fields has traveled extensively throughout East and West Africa.

**Adrienne Foster** has worked as an administrator and faculty member in the California community colleges since 1979 and is currrently Associate Dean of Student Services at West Los Angeles College. However, her passion has been collecting African-American and Caribbean-American works of art for her home and office.

**Dr. Maulana Karenga** is creator of the holiday Kwanzaa, Professor and Chair of the Department of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach, and Executive Director of the African American Cultural Center. His publications include *Introduction to Black Studies, The Million Man March/Day of Absence Mission Statement, Selections from the Husia: Sacred Wisdom of Ancient Egypt,* and *Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture.*

**Rick Moss** is Program Manager of History for the California African-American Museum. A desire for spiritual growth and professional development nurtured his interest in African history and culture. A life-defining year spent in Kenya as a graduate student further exposed Mr. Moss to the reality and romance of the continent.

**Dr. Alex J. Norman** is Professor Emeritus of Social Welfare at the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research and is a part-time Organization Development Consultant. He has conducted research on the African Diaspora in North America and the United Kingdom and has been a collector of African art since 1972.

**Marilyn F. Solomon**, Governor and Trustee of the Natural History Museum, holds an M.B.A. from Pepperdine University and is President of the Solomon Group. She is a five-time EMMY award winner for documentaries, specials, and children's programs that she produced for television.

**Doris Topsy-Elvord** is Vice-Mayor of the City of Long Beach. Largely through her efforts, that city is reviving and renewing its Sister-City ties to Meru, Kenya. The Vice-Mayor's avocation is travel: she has visited and explored six of the seven continents. She recently returned from an extensive adventure in East Africa.

**Phyllis Moore Venable**, a seventeen-year resident of Los Angeles, is the Neighborhood Improvement Officer for the Department of Community Development, City of Long Beach. She has been a collector of African elephant imagery from childhood, a hobby which has spurred a lifelong interest in African wildlife and conservation.■

All photographs
by Dick Meier

# "DEEP-SEE" SHRIMP

TWENTY YEARS AGO, OUR VIEW OF the oceans was forever changed by one of the most startling discoveries in the history of oceanography and marine biology. The tiny submersible *Alvin*, operating out of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, came across small oases of life clustered around deep-sea hydrothermal vents on the sea floor off the Galapagos Islands.

In general, the deep sea has been considered rather depauperate when compared to other marine habitats. The *Alvin* had descended to great depths to explore the hot vents themselves, which had been detected earlier by the temperature anomalies they created: no one involved in the expedition anticipated finding a new world of organisms. But around the vents, in contrast to what is found on the nearby abyssal plain, were thriving communities of giant worms, fishes, molluscs, crustaceans, and other forms. Not only were most of the species present new to science, but more significantly the base of their food chain was found to be chemosynthetic rather than photosynthetic: the tiny bacteria fed upon by the worms and molluscs were deriving their energy not from sunlight but from chemicals issuing from the vents.

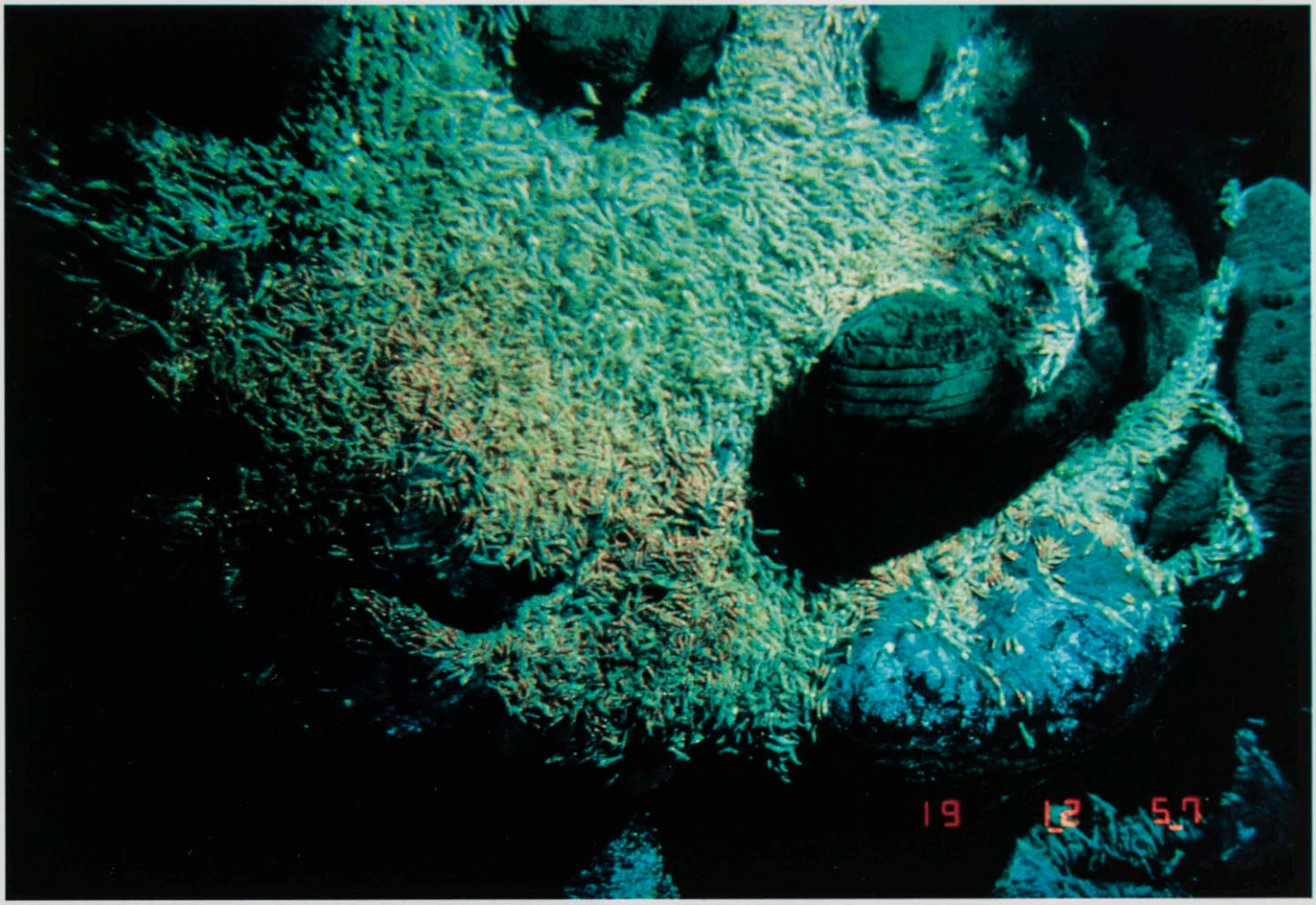
Since that initial discovery, hydrothermal vents supporting communities of unusual organisms have been found along most of the major oceanic plate boundaries in the Atlantic and Pacific, and there may be hundreds or thousands more on the floors of the world's oceans.

THE STAFF OF THE NATURAL HISTORY Museum includes some of the world's foremost authorities on deep-sea life, and these scientists became involved in studies of the vents early on. Dr. James McLean, a specialist in deep-sea molluscs, has written a number of papers on hydrothermal vent limpets; Deputy Director Emeritus Dr. Daniel Cohen is renowned for his work on deep-sea fishes, including populations of unusual species found near some vents; and I study crustaceans. We continue to be asked to examine or describe newly discovered organisms from the vents, and the museum's collections now contain a number of vent specimens, including several that we refer to as "types," the all-important and irreplaceable reference individuals that form the basis of the description of a new species.

Our ongoing research on the numbers and kinds of organisms found at the vents is not only a challenge but a pleasure: we are privileged to be laying the foundation upon which further knowledge of the origin and evolution of the vent species can be built.

ONE OF THE MORE CURIOUS FINDS IN my own field is that some of the vent shrimp from along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge are eyeless in the classic sense, although not blind. In these shrimps, from the genera *Rimicaris* ("vent shrimp") and *Chorocaris* ("dancing shrimp"), the ocular apparatus has apparently shifted from the usual frontal position, leaving them with what are essentially eyes on their backs. The eyes themselves are unusual: they contain the visual pigment rhodopsin and a retina-like tissue, but there is no faceted cornea or lens as is found in "normal" shrimp eyes. The shrimp obviously have the ability to detect light, but what they are seeing at these depths where sunlight does not penetrate is still anyone's guess.

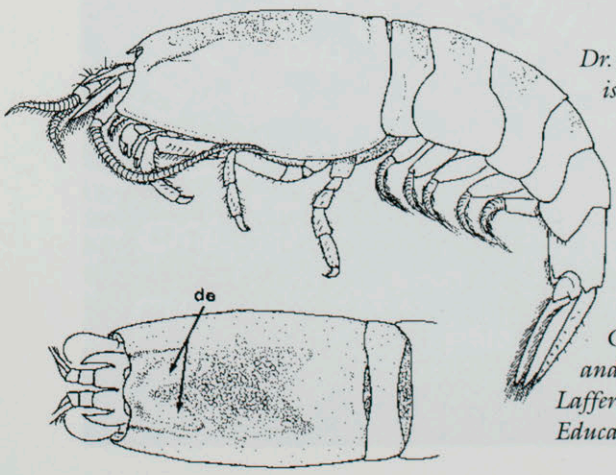
The Natural History Museum's Museum Research Apprenticeship Program provides local high school students the opportunity to work alongside curators, to the benefit of both the young scientists and their mentors. During summer 1996, while working with me, Hema Patel (St. Lucy's Priory High School, Glendora) and James Signorovitch (Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, Rolling Hills Estates; now at Cornell University) discovered a new species of *Rimicaris* from the Lucky Strike vents of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The new shrimp is named *Rimicaris aurantiaca;* its second name is derived from the Latin word for orange, in reference to its color when alive and also as a tribute to the Orangemen of Syracuse University, where the initial neuroanatomical work on the optical systems was carried out. The new shrimp is a




beautiful example of a link between the *Rimicaris* and *Chorocaris* genera of vent shrimp. It has eyes on its back, like true species of *Rimicaris*. But it also has a feature previously known only in species of *Chorocaris*—a pad of bristles on its claw for keeping its antennae clean.

Assisting our team in its research was the museum's World Wide Web site, the Crustacean Biodiversity Survey (http://www.nhm.org/cbs/), which I wrote and Jim Angus, our Web Site Manager, designed. The site allows investigators from around the world to at any time add information on any of the more than 800 families of living crustaceans, and this in turn helps keep our Crustacea staff up to date about new developments in the field. I estimate that the hydrothermal vents alone will yield more than 100 new species of crustaceans over the next decade, provided that research and exploration can continue as in the past.

JOEL W. MARTIN




*Dr. Martin, who is Curator of Crustacea, is now on a year's leave of absence from the museum, serving as Program Officer for Biotic Surveys and Inventories in the National Science Foundation's Division of Environmental Biology.* *MRAP 1996 was funded by a National Science Foundation grant to Dr. Karen Wise, Assistant Curator of Archaeology in the Research and Collections Branch, and Susan K. Lafferty, Science Education Specialist in the Education Division.*

**OPPOSITE PAGE: A hydrothermal vent site from near the Galapagos Islands. The communities at such sites are dominated by huge red "tube worms"; also present are clams, mussels, and large crabs, one of which is particularly obvious here near the lower right corner of the photograph. Photograph by Robert R. Hessler, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; used with permission.**

**ABOVE: One of the unusual vent sites along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. At these sites, there are no worms or clams; instead, the dominant organisms are shrimp new to science. Photograph by Cindy Lee Van Dover, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and National Undersea Research Program; used with permission.**

**LEFT: A new species of vent shrimp, genus *Rimicaris*, that is being described by Dr. Martin and former MRAP students James Signorovitch and Hema Patel. Most individuals are between 1 and 2 inches long. Drawing by Joel W. Martin.**

**As in some previously described vent shrimps, the new species has no true eyes but instead has "dorsal eyes" (de in the drawing), which might represent an evolutionary migration of the "normal" eye's retina and pigments toward the top of the animal. The purpose of this novel optical arrangement is as yet unknown.**

# THE MAY FAMILY DISCOVERY CENTER AT THE PETERSEN AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM

THE ABILITY TO ENGAGE CHILDREN in "hands-on," experiential learning and problem solving has been a strength of the Natural History Museum's public programs, and this strength is particularly evident in the Exposition Park museum's Ralph M. Parsons Discovery Center, which had its tenth anniversary in April 1997. Building on the success of the Parsons center, the museum's Education and Exhibits Divisions have now created a fun-filled participatory exhibit space for the Petersen Automotive Museum. The new learning center, which has been made possible by the May Family Foundation, opens to the public on November 22.

In the May Family Discovery Center, visitors interact with exhibit modules and displays to explore general physical concepts such as motion, force, and energy and to learn not just how a car works but why. Sitting on a giant combustion engine, for example, visitors become human spark plugs; by pushing pistons in sequence with their feet, they turn a crankshaft and make a "car" move across the floor. At the "Jack Station," a child can lift a car and have a vivid demonstration of the power of a simple machine like a lever while learning of the ways that force can be redirected, magnified, or changed.

"Have You Hugged Your Road Today" uses car tires to explain the causes of hydroplaning and to illustrate the design and function of tread; but this exhibit also explores the differences between friction and traction. The exhibit "Crash Test," where visitors propel miniature vehicles of various types and weights into fender-bending collisions, defines mass, demonstrates the transfer of energy, and introduces the principle of conservation of momentum. A real truck acts as the "delivery vehicle" for Discovery Bottles, each containing a puzzle or game with an automotive history or science learning theme.

The experiences of visitors in the May Family Discovery Center extend the themes of the museum's first-floor Streetscape exhibitions. The center is designed with elementary and junior high school children in mind, but it will also be attractive to families and to individuals with limited knowledge of cars. We invite our members to visit the new center and enjoy the exciting interactive dimensions that it is adding to the Petersen Automotive Museum.

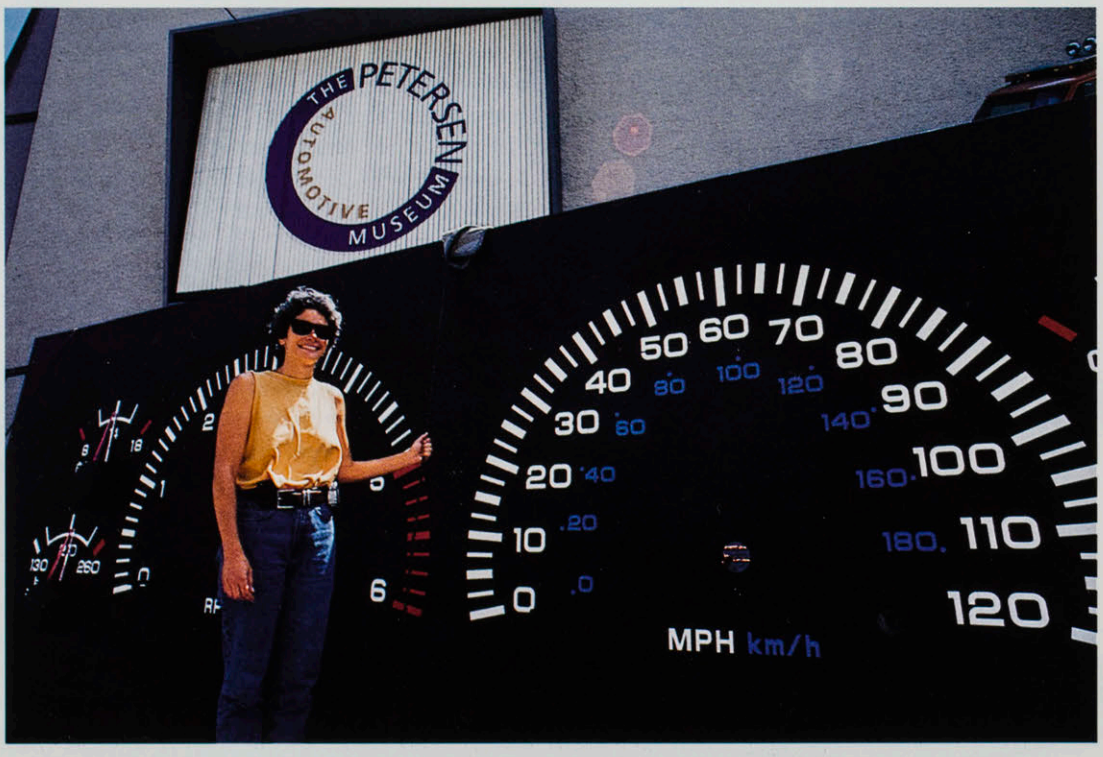
LINDA ABRAHAM

### DISCOVERY CENTER SPONSORSHIPS

A museum sponsorship by a select corporation can create a win-win situation. Each sponsorship offers a company unique opportunities to reach the public; in exchange, the institution receives a much-needed infusion of capital, goods, or services.

At the Petersen Automotive Museum, we have already developed strong partnerships with such prestigious organizations as ARCO, Meguiar's Wax, the Automobile Club of Southern California, Ferrari North America, and the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA). And now many new sponsors have joined us for the opening of the May Family Discovery Center. Their generous assistance has resulted in significant savings for the museum and an exciting experience for our visitors.

May Family Discovery Center sponsors already on board include Sparkletts, Toyota Motor Sales, Mickey Thompson Performance Tires, Montgomery Watson, BAS Recycling, Inc., and Sierra On-Line. Sparkletts has provided one of its famous green trucks to house "Discovery Bottles" of games and puzzles, and the company is promoting museum attendance through customer mailings. Toyota



vehicles and Mickey Thompson tires are featured in several interactive exhibits. Montgomery Watson, an environmental engineering firm, assisted with the hanging of an "exploded" car from the ceiling. BAS Recycling, a San Bernardino company, provided Kid Kushion flooring, made out of recycled tires, for the Toddler Corner.

Sponsorship agreements often result in a state-of-the-art experience for museum goers. Sierra On-Line, for example, has a new program, *Driver's Education '98* ™, that provides a virtual driving experience. In the May Family Discovery Center, the software has been installed in a simulated vehicle, creating an exhibit that allows Petersen Museum visitors to test their driving skills while giving Sierra a showcase for its product. The Petersen's retail store sells the software, offering both the sponsor and the museum increased revenues.

Designing programs that meet the needs of sponsors, the museum, and its visitors is both challenging and fun. Almost every Discovery Center element features products—mufflers, jacks, speedometers, etc.—that are presently on the market. A sponsorship highlights the community spirit of an industry leader: I believe that there is no better way for a company to reach the audience it wants, to build brand awareness, and to foster goodwill.

DEIRDRE PETERSON

*Linda Abraham was for several years Public Programs Coordinator for the museum and is now Assistant Chief of Education as well as Acting Chief of the Education Division.*

*Deirdre Peterson is Director of Corporate Sponsorship for the Natural History Museum and welcomes inquiries about sponsorship opportunities at the Petersen and the other museums in our family of institutions.*

*The May Family Discovery Center is located on the third floor of the Petersen Automotive Museum. It is open during museum hours and free with museum admission. Reservations are required for school tours; please call 213/763-3333 to reserve space for a class.*

**PAGE 8: Cyrena Nouzelle, an exhibit planning and design consultant who has coordinated the installation of the May Family Discovery Center, oversees the delivery of "Giant Speedo," a dashboard constructed for a Dodge commercial and then generously donated to the Petersen Museum by Praxis Films and Hunter Gratzner Industries, Inc., and kindly transported to the museum by Scenic Expressions. Photograph by Larry Reynolds.**

**LEFT: *Front, from left,* Elizabeth Fabian, Lauren Melendrez, and Otto Fabian and, *back, left,* David Cöcke explore a Sparkletts Discovery Bottle with Helena Praks, Education and Volunteer Coordinator for the Petersen Automotive Museum. Ms. Praks has assisted in the development of the new Discovery Center and will oversee its operation. Photograph by Dick Meier.**

**THIS COLUMN: Two exhibits, "Four Strokes" *above* and "Crash Test," are put through their paces by visitors to the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, which conducted testing and evaluation of the May Family Discovery Center elements for the Natural History Museum. Photographs by Cyrena Nouzelle.**

# PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS

## LECTURES & SPECIAL EVENTS

### ■ AZTEC HUMAN SACRIFICE

**Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History**

Large-scale human sacrifice reached unique ritualized refinement among the sixteenth-century Aztecs of Mexico. Dr. Patricia Anawalt, Director of the Center for Study of Regional Dress at the Fowler Museum of Cultural History, examines this fascinating phenomenon in three parts. First, the story is told from the conquistadors' point of view: drawings from a 1922 edition of W.S. Prescott's *Conquest of Mexico* are used to illustrate the Spaniards' horrified response to the "heathen" practices of the strange new land. Attention then turns to the rationale underlying the Aztecs' theatrical ceremonies, where human offerings were regularly made to their gods; colorful depictions from indigenous pictorial codices illustrate this section of the talk, which highlights the various ritual contexts in which victims were sacrificed. The final part of the lecture is a consideration of how modern-day scholars have viewed Aztec human sacrifice. These explanations—proposed between the 1950s and the present—serve almost as a Rorschach in the way that they reflect each decade's theoretical persuasion. $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with current I.D.

### La Brea Zoo lecture series

### ■ FEROCIOUS FELIDS

**Saturday, November 22, 2 p.m., Page Museum**

Rancho La Brea has yielded the world's largest sample of saber-toothed cats as well as more than 80 individuals of the American Lion, a giant in comparison to its living African relatives. How did these savage predators compete with each other and the dire wolves to exploit the many kinds of prey living in the Los Angeles Basin at the end of the last ice age? In the first lecture in an exciting new series, Christopher Shaw, Collections Manager of Rancho La Brea, will share his insight into the La Brea cats and will explain what the treasures from the tar pits tell us about the lifestyles of these and other carnivores.

Other lectures in the coming months include La Brea Horses and Their Kin (January 1998), Giant Ground Sloths (March), and The Artiodactyl ABC's (May). Individual lecture tickets are $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with I.D.

### Lecture and booksigning

### ❁ KWANZAA

**Sunday, November 9, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. Children ages 14 and older may attend if accompanied by an adult**

Dr. Maulana Karenga is the creator of Kwanzaa and author of the definitive book on the subject. In a special discussion of the creation and meaning of this holiday. Dr. Karenga will share how the holiday speaks to our constant quest to be rooted in our own culture, to speak our own special cultural truth in a multicultural world, and to practice values and share a vision which reaffirms and reinforces the best of family, community, and culture. He will describe Kwanzaa's five fundamental activities, the Nguzo Saba (the Seven Principles), and the holiday's symbols and their significance. $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with I.D.

### Africa symposium

### ❁ TRANSCENDING THE SERENGETI

**Saturday, December 6, 10a.m. to 3p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Natural History Museum**

Several distinguished scholars lead a discussion of a subject often neglected—the scientific and technological contributions of Africans and African-Americans. Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, author of *They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America*, provides a historical overview of the development of African science and technology from ancient times to the present. Charles S. Finch, M.D., currently on the faculty of Moorehouse School of Medicine, has documented the evolution of sophisticated and effective medical diagnostic and therapeutic methods developed by traditional African physicians; in describing his research, he shows how it challenges the idea that Africa was without a medical science.

Dr. John Pappademos, Professor Emeritus at University of Illinois, Chicago, has studied Africa's role in the history of physics; his findings help destroy assumptions that have resulted in the denigration of the intellectual and scientific abilities of non-Europeans. James W. Reed, Jr., guest curator of the Sacramento Discovery Museum's Black Inventor Exhibit and an expert in the accomplishments and contributions of Africans of the Diaspora, recounts the achievements of African American inventors and scientists. $20 members, $25 nonmembers, $10 students; a group discount of 10 percent is offered on a nonrefundable purchase of 10 or more tickets.

### Lecture and booksigning

### ❁ THE SPIRITS SPEAK

**Sunday, December 7, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History**

Nicky Arden, a woman of German-Jewish descent, is also an African Sangoma—a traditional healer. In this presentation, Mrs. Arden tells of being initiated into the sacred tradition of Umdawu and of joining a clan of practicing Zulu Medicine Women—experiences that are the basis for her book, *The Spirits Speak* (Henry Holt, 1997). She describes receiving a spirit name from the

**One Continent. Many Worlds.**

The Education Division is celebrating this major exhibit with special weekend entertainment and crafts programs for the whole family at the Exposition Park museum. The festivities continue on certain Saturdays and Sundays in November and December (November 1 and 2, 15 and 16, and 29 and 30; December 6 and 7, 13 and 14, and 27 and 28), from 10:45 to noon and from 12:30 to 1:45, in the Foyer of the Exposition Park museum. All events are free with museum admission, which of course is free to members. Details on each weekend's events will be given on the museum's recorded information number, 213/763-DINO.

Other programs with Africa themes in this calendar are marked with a ❁

ancients, learning *ukubhula* (to divine), and completing the arduous physical ordeal demanded of anyone wishing to become a fully fledged Sangoma. The talk explores the rituals that weave together the threads of the physical and spiritual worlds. $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with current I.D.

### ANCIENT EGYPT AND NUBIA

Africa's First Civilizations

**Sunday, November 23, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History**

Ancient Egypt and Nubia represent the oldest civilizations in Africa. Dr. Stuart Smith, Assistant to the Director at the Institute of Archaeology at UCLA, describes the many contacts and interactions that these two nations had with other African peoples and how they came to have such a powerful influence on world civilization. He discusses the dynamics of their economies—a mix of warfare and commerce—and the competition between them for access to the luxuries of central Africa, such as elephant ivory, ebony, spices, and incense. $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with current I.D.

**Lecture and booksigning**

### EYE TO EYE

A Retrospective of the Work of Frans Lanting

**Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History**

The distinguished photographer Frans Lanting presents his stunning new book, *Eye To Eye* (Taschen Verlag, Germany, 1997). For the past 18 years, Mr. Lanting has been a professional nomad, documenting wildlife and recording people's relationships with nature around the world. His work has been commissioned by many organizations, including the National Geographic Society, The Nature Company, and The Sierra Club, and he has received a number of awards. In this slide-illustrated talk, he reveals his unique personal aesthetic of wildlife photography. $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with current I.D.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY FRANS LANTING

**Frans Lanting on location in the Amazon Basin.**

## ADULT CLASSES

### SWAHILI WORKSHOP

**Saturdays, November 8 and 22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Education Classroom, Museum of Natural History**

Learn the essentials of communicating in Swahili, the language of more than 50 million people in East Africa, from Dr. Thomas Hinnebusch, Professor of Linguistics and African Languages in UCLA's Department of African Linguistics. Dr. Hinnebusch has been teaching Swahili for 33 years, has authored texts, and has been a speaker at many seminars and conventions. As one of the country's leading experts on this fascinating language, he will give us basic linguistic skills as well as cultural information. The workshops are sequential, and attendance at both is recommended to acquire basic speaking skills. For both days: $60 members, $70 nonmembers.

### OVAL PINE NEEDLE BASKETS

**Saturday, November 22, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Education Classroom, Page Museum**

Master basket maker Judy Mulford teaches us to create beautiful, functional coiled baskets using fragrant California pine needles. We'll learn various stitches and basket-shaping techniques as well as pattern design. Ms. Mulford welcomes students of all experience levels. $55 members, $65 nonmembers.

### DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS

**Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. to noon, Education Classroom, Museum of Natural History. Children ages 14 and up may attend if accompanied by an adult**

Genealogist George Jenkins, a founding member of the California African American Genealogical Society, has lectured extensively on African American genealogy and Early California African American history. In this workshop, he will demonstrate how genealogies can be traced for Californians and will show how to apply these methods to tracing your own genealogy. $25 members, $30 nonmembers

### GOURD ART

**December 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Museum of Natural History**

Artist Darrell Cox helps us turn plain, dried out gourds into unique pieces of art. In his business, Gourdifacts, Mr. Cox has been creating fantastic art pieces and instruments for almost 20 years; he has performed at the Los Angeles Children's Museum and in many festivals, and his instruments have been used by musicians such as Stevie Wonder, Lou Rawls, and Stanley Clarke. All materials are included; $85 members, $95 nonmembers.

### BATIK ON CLOTH

**Sunday, November 16, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Museum of Natural History**

Learn the ancient textile art of batik from artist Teresa Tolliver. She will explain its history in Africa and teach participants to create their own batik cloth. $35 members, $40 nonmembers.

## ADULT FIELD TRIPS

**A research expedition**

### DIVE WITH THE SHARKS

**Sunday, November 30, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children ages 7 and older accompanied by an adult**

Join us on a breathtaking voyage into the mysterious realm of the blue shark. We'll

safely enter the water in the protected setting of a specially designed snorkeling cage to observe blue sharks in their natural environment off the coast of Catalina. Participants may even have the opportunity to assist researchers from the Southern California Marine Institute in their ongoing juvenile blue shark tagging program. Marine biologists from the Hydrosphere team and museum instructors will round out our day with presentations and workshops on shark behavior and natural history, oceanography, and navigation.

We'll provide masks, snorkels, and children's wetsuits; adults provide their own wetsuits. We depart from Terminal Island in Long Beach; all participants should pack a bag lunch, snacks, and drinking water. $75 members, $85 nonmembers.

### THE LIFE AND LAND OF THE HOPI

**Monday through Monday, January 12 through 19, 1998**

Because of the resounding success and popularity of our January 1997 trip to northern Arizona, we are pleased to offer a second excursion to this fascinating area, with an added day-journey to Canyon de Chelly.

The Hopi, descendants of the ancient Anasazi, have resided in villages in mesa country for many centuries. As craftspeople they are well known for their exquisite polychrome pottery, silver overlay work, coiled basketry, and intricately carved kachinas. To uncover the traditions and lifeways of these people of the Southwest, we will visit villages and historical sites, interact with residents and community leaders, and observe artisans at work. Our guides, most of whom are Hopi tribal members, are experts in the culture.

$1035 members, $1085 nonmembers; single occupancy option an additional $280. Price includes 7 nights' lodging at the Hopi Cultural Center, tours of Hopi country, meals, and all transportation beginning and ending in Phoenix. Cosponsored with the Heard Museum in association with the Yavapai County Community College. Please call 213/763-3534 for a complete itinerary.

## FAMILY FUNDAYS

*These family programs are **free** with museum admission for children ages 4 and older. No reservations are necessary, but space in some programs is limited, so please arrive early.*

### BRUSH STROKES

**Saturday, November 15, 1:30 p.m., Discovery Center, Museum of Natural History**

Artist Louvenia Austin explains how body painting is integrated into African culture and daily life; then she will do some fancy body painting on you.

### TRAVEL THROUGH TIME

**Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m., Artopia, Petersen Automotive Museum**

See a slide show on road travel—from horse power to solar cells, and create a craft item that you can take home.

### BATIK BY YOU

**Saturday, December 20, 1:30 p.m., Discovery Center, Museum of Natural History**

Learn all about batik, a special fabric art form practiced in Africa, from artist Teresa Tolliver. Then make your own batik designs on paper to take home.

### STATES AND LICENSE PLATES

**Sunday, December 7, 2 to 4 p.m., Artopia, Petersen Automotive Museum**

Match the state to its plate and learn about people, geography, and cars. Then make a holiday car card to take home.

## CHILDREN'S CLASSES

*To ensure the best possible experience for your child, please abide by the age requirements stipulated in our program descriptions.*

### INTO AFRICA

**Saturday, November 8, 10 a.m. to noon, Museum of Natural History. Children ages 7 to 10**

Learn what it was like to grow up in Africa from museum educator Cathy Campbell, who spent part of her childhood in Tanzania and Kenya. She will share her African toys and artifacts with you as she tells her story. Then you'll take a photo safari through the African Mammal Hall, make a journal to record your expedition, learn some words and phrases in Swahili, and create braid dolls and animals to take home. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

### FUN WITH FOSSILS

**Saturday, November 8, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Page Museum. Children ages 6 to 7**

Explore the wonderful world of fossils. Touch and examine real bones with educator Marcus Eriksen, who will tell you what it is like to be a paleontologist. $20 members, $25 nonmembers.

### FOSSIL FACTS

**Saturday, November 8, noon to 1:30 p.m., Page Museum. Children ages 8 to 10**

Unearth some fascinating facts about long-extinct animals with educator Marcus Eriksen. Dig for fossils, examine your finds, and discover the amazing ways that scientists use bones to learn about the past. $20 members, $25 nonmembers.

## FAMILY FIELD TRIPS

### THE PALEONTOLOGY OF PALOS VERDES

**Saturday, November 22, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Children ages 5 and older accompanied by an adult**

Spend the morning screening for marine fossils with the museum's own model maker Joe Cōcke. We'll learn about the paleontology and geology of San Pedro and the Palos Verdes Peninsula as we search for fossils along this beautiful portion of our coastline. Mr. Cōcke will help us identify the specimens we find and teach us to record our discoveries just as real museum scientists do. Pack a lunch for a picnic following the program. Participants provide their own transportation to the site. $14 members, $18 nonmembers.

## WINTER ADVENTURES IN NATURE

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, December 29, 30 and 31 and January 2, Museum of Natural History**

Children ages 4 through 13 can learn about nature firsthand in exciting participatory sessions with outstanding museum instructors. The one-day courses offer opportunities to work with natural history specimens and artifacts, visit curatorial laboratories, and make craft items to take home. Classes include:

**Ages 3 to 4,** with accompanying adult: Lizard Scales and Snake Tails; Mudhens, Mudskippers, and Mud Pies; Tidepool Treasures.

**Ages 5 to 6,** Fins and Flippers; Boa Buddies; Mud in Your Face; Dig Those Dinos.

**Ages 7 to 8,** Serengeti Safari; Ocean Odyssey; Rambunctious Reptiles.

**Ages 9 to 10,** Art Around the World; The Ocean Around Us.

**Ages 11 to 13,** Pumas and Pots in Peru; Mundo Maya.

Classes for children ages 7 and up, which are limited to twenty students each, run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (students bring a bag lunch); each class is $40 members, $45 nonmembers. Classes for children ages 3 to 4 (with accompanying adult) run from 10 a.m. to noon; each class is $25 per child/adult pair, members; $30 per child/adult pair nonmembers. Classes for children ages 5 to 6 run from 10 a.m. to noon; each class is $25 members, $30 nonmembers. Discounts are offered when one child enrolls in two or more classes.

For more information, please call 213/763-3534.

## BONES, BLUBBER & BALEEN

### The Marine Mammal Research Facility

**Saturday, November 15, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Children ages 6 and older accompanied by an adult**

Take a special behind-the-scenes tour of the amazing collection of whale, dolphin, walrus, seal, and sea lion skeletons at the Natural History Museum's Marine Mammal Research Facility in Vernon. Our leader is Dr. John Heyning, the museum's Curator of Marine Mammals. Participants meet at the site. $14 members, $18 nonmembers.

## OTHER PROGRAMS

**Tracking the Monarch Butterfly.** Orientation: Wednesday, December 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Field Trip: Sunday, December 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adults only.

**Tagging the Monarch Butterfly.** Orientation: Wednesday, December 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Field Trip: Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children ages 10 and older, accompanied by an adult.

For more information, please call 213/763-3534.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AN INVITATION TO SERVE

Are you thinking about volunteering? The Natural History Museum is now recruiting volunteers to lead school tours, work at information and membership desks, or conduct outreach programs at the Hart Museum in Newhall, the Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries, the Petersen Automotive Museum, and the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park. For further information please call 213/763-3341.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS RESERVATION FORM

■ **By telephone:** Use your MasterCard or VISA. Call the Education Division at 213/763-3534, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Credit cards are accepted only with a minimum charge of $20.

■ **By mail:** Complete the form below, fill in the charge information or enclose a check payable to Museum Foundation, and return your order form and payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The form may be duplicated. Mail to: ***Education Division, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007***

■ **Important: Reservation, Waiting List and Refund Policies.** Preregistration is required for all classes, workshops, and field trips and is recommended for all other Education Division programs. Tickets to auditorium events may be purchased at the door on a first-come, first-served basis; seating is not reserved. Reservations are not necessary for Family Fundays.

Applicants for filled programs will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if vacancies or rescheduling occur. If you have paid for a filled program, your payment will be refunded in 4-6 weeks.

Cancellations must be made one week prior to the first day of the event for the registrant to be eligible for a refund. Only if we are able to fill your space will the fee be refunded.

Dates and times of programs are subject to change, and class sizes are limited. Please call 213/763-3534 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to verify program dates, times, and availability.

Mr.
Mrs.
Miss
Ms.
NAME (Please Print Clearly)

( ) HOME
( ) BUSINESS

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

Mail to:
Education Division
Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

❑ My check is enclosed

Charge my credit card:
❑ MasterCard
❑ VISA

| Program | Number of participants | Price | Total Price |
|---|---|---|---|
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Total Remittance _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Please list children's names, ages, and programs in which they are enrolling:

_____

_____

_____

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As of September 1, 1997


# MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the Natural History Museum has worked over the past year to bring the national exhibition *AFRICA: One Continent, Many Worlds,* to its West Coast premier in our Exposition Park museum, we have received guidance from the AFRICA Advisory Council, a group of some fifty southern California community leaders representing business, education, government, and the arts. Council members have advised our staff on programming and auxiliary exhibits and events that emphasize Los Angeles resources and achievements; as individuals and through their affiliations they have helped to make the widest possible number of residents aware of the celebrations surrounding the exhibit.

With Marilyn F. Solomon as chair, the Advisory Council has provided invaluable assistance and enthusiastic support that has dramatically enhanced the impact of our showcase of Africa and African peoples and cultures. On behalf of the Boards of Governors and Trustees of the museum, I am pleased to recognize and thank the members of the AFRICA Advisory Council.
*Dr. James L. Powell, President and Director.*

### The AFRICA Advisory Council

**Marilyn F. Solomon**, *Chair.*
President, The Solomon Group, and Governor and Trustee, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

**Robert Barrett**, Associate Vice-President, Cultural Tourism, Los Angeles Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Phoebe Beasley**, Account Manager, KOST Radio, and Member of Alliance Board of Directors, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County


### Mugs and Gift Memberships!

This holiday season, surprise someone special with a membership in the Natural History Museum—and receive a handsome museum mug as a bonus! With every NEW gift membership that you purchase between November 28 and December 14, you will receive the first in a series of collectible mugs featuring whimsical images of dinosaurs by artist and museum member William G. Stout. A beautiful card and a welcoming packet will be sent announcing your gift. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase gifts that will bring a full year of pleasure. Please use the application form, or call the Membership Services Office at 213/763-3426.

**DISCOVER A WORLD OF WONDER**

Your Name(s)
Address (please print)
City State Zip
Home ( ) Business ( )
❑ Check enclosed *(Make payable to Natural History Foundation)*
Charge my ❑ American Express ❑ Master Card ❑ VISA ❑ Discover
Account # Exp. date
Signature
Recipient's Name(s)
Address
City State Zip
Home ( ) Business ( )
Please send notice of gift expiration to: ❑ Recipient ❑ Me
Membership Category:
❑ Active ($40) ❑ Patron ($150) ❑ Fellow ($1000)
❑ Family ($50) ❑ Naturalist ($250) ❑ Director's Circle ($3000)
❑ Contributing ($100) ❑ Explorer ($500)
Gift Announcement Message
Please send me information about:
❑ Bequests ❑ Tax-advantage life income gifts
Please return this form to the Membership Office, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90007

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### MUSEUM SCIENTIST HONORED

Dr. Daniel M. Cohen, Deputy Director Emeritus for Research and Collections, has received the Gibbs Memorial Award "for an outstanding body of published work in systematic ichthyology." Dr. Cohen was Chief Curator of Life Sciences at the museum for 11 years and, at the time of his retirement in 1995, headed the Research and Collections Branch. He is an expert on the classification and biology of deep-sea fishes and has written or edited more than 100 research papers, books, and reviews on marine biology.

The Gibbs award was presented to Dr. Cohen at the annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Seattle, Washington.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### FOOTBALL SEASON CONTINUES

On days when there is a football game at the Coliseum, fees for parking in the Museum of Natural History parking lots range from $5 to $10, and the lots fill quickly. Please plan ahead when visiting the Exposition Park museum on weekends. Games will occur on November 8 and 22. For information on these and other Coliseum events, please call 213/748-6131.

The Natural History Museum exists to advance knowledge and to enable people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests to understand and appreciate their natural and cultural heritage. The museum assembles, conserves, interprets, and holds in trust collections of irreplaceable objects from nature and human history. These collections reveal the history of the Earth and the evolution and diversity of life and culture. They sustain programs of research, exhibits, education, and publication.


Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
World Wide Web: http://www.nhm.org
TDD numbers, for the hard of hearing:
Public information 213/743-4861
Education 213/743-4862
Museum Security 213/743-4863

■ Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
General information 213/763-DINO

■ George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries
5801 Wilshire Blvd., Hancock Park, Los Angeles 90036
General information 213/934-PAGE

■ Petersen Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd., at Fairfax, Los Angeles 90036
General information 213/930-CARS

■ William S. Hart Museum
24151 San Fernando Road, Hart Park, Newhall 91321
General information 805/254-4584



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**Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**
**Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California 90007**



*Dine with dinosaurs.*
*Swing with saber-toothed cats.*
*Dance among Dusenbergs.*

*Are you seeking* a unique setting for a birthday party, awards banquet, film wrap party, or retirement dinner? Consider the Museum of Natural History, the Page Museum, or the Petersen Automotive Museum — ideal venues for any festive occasion.

*Our on-staff event planners* can tailor one of our dramatic locations to your celebration, arrange the details, and help you create an event that your guests will long remember.

**For more information, please call our special events offices:**

**Museum of Natural History and Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries**
■ **Christina Canalez, 213/763-3221**

**Petersen Automotive Museum**
■ **Pamela Meadows, 213/964-6355**